

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 OIC-02 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 L-03

H-02 DIWY-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

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P 161523Z JUN 75

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 763

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SGEN, AORG, OCON

SUBJECT: WCIWY: STATUS OF DECLARATION; POSSIBILITY
OF INFORMAL STEERING GROUP

1. AMB WHITE SPOKE JUNE 11 WITH ASST SEC GEN SIPILA ON
EVE OF HER DEPARTURE FOR MEXICO CITY. MS. SIPILA WAS
NOT UP TO DATE ON G-77 DRAFT DECLARATION ON WOMEN IN
DEVELOPMENT, NOR HAD SHE YET SEEN KINSHASA DOCUMENT.
HOWEVER, SHE SAID SHE HOPED AND EXPECTED THAT DECLARATION
WOULD BE VERY BRIEF DOCUMENT ACCEPTABLE TO ALL.

2. AMB WHITE ASKED MS. SIPILA IF THERE WERE PLANS FOR
ANY SORT OF STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CONFERENCE. SINCE
VICE PRESIDENTS WILL EVIDENTLY NUMBER OVER 40, THE
GENERAL COMMITTEE CAN HARDLY PERFORM THIS FUNCTION. AMB
WHITE CITED PRECEDENT OF ROME WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE WHERE
AD HOC NEGOTIATING GROUP OF NINE COUNTRIES, REPRESENTING
ALL REGIONAL GROUPS, PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN RESOLVING
DIFFERENCES AND EXPEDITING THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE.
ALL RESOLUTIONS WERE REFERRED TO THIS GROUP, AND IT
HELPED TAKE THE HEAT OUT OF ISSUES THAT WERE DISCUSSED
IN MORE INFLAMMATORY TERMS IN BOTH PLENARY AND COMMITTEES.
MS. SIPILA SAID SHE THOUGHT THE IDEA HAD MERIT, BUT SHE

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SEEMS UNLIKELY TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE.

3. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ONE OF PRIME REASONS FOR SUCCESS OF WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE FROM US VIEWPOINT WAS EXISTENCE OF AD HOC GROUP. BECAUSE IT REPRESENTED ALL REGIONAL GROUPS (BOTH US AND UK PARTICIPATED) IT HAD CONSIDERABLE AUTHORITY AND ITS DECISIONS WERE ACCEPTED BY ALL. WHILE LIMITED TO NINE MEMBERS, IT HELD OPEN MEETINGS WHICH ANY DELEGATION COULD ATTEND. SINCE MEETINGS WERE INFORMAL AND NOT FOR THE RECORD, THEY WERE RAPID AND NON-POLEMIC. WE BELIEVE THAT A COMPARABLE BODY COULD BE IMPORTANT AT WCIWY. WHILE IT WOULD NOT GUARANTEE THAT ISSUES POSING PROBLEMS FOR US COULD BE CONTAINED, IT WOULD PROVIDE THE MEANS FOR DOING SO IF THERE IS THE WILL. AT A MINIMUM, IT WOULD PROBABLY MAKE ISSUES LESS TROUBLESOME FOR THE US. SINCE MEXICANS TOOK THE INITIATIVE IN CALLING A GROUP TO CONSULT INFORMALLY ON THE DECLARATION, THEY MIGHT BE AMENABLE TO SUCH A DEVICE -- OR MAY ALREADY HAVE THOUGHT OF IT.

4. CENTER OF ACTION FOR WCIWY HAS NOW MOVED TO MEXICO CITY. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT MRS. HUTAR AND/OR AMB JOVA DISCUSS IDEA OF STEERING GROUP SOONEST WITH MEXICANS. SCALI

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